

REMARKS

Firstly, it is acknowledged that claims 12, 13, 23, and 24 are allowed.

Objections

A "Brief Description of the Drawings" heading and a description of Figures 1-3 has been added to the specification at page 8.

Rejection of the Claims Under 35 U.S.C. §101

Claims 1-11 and 18-22 stand rejected under §101 being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The claims have been rewritten as method claims according to conventional US practice. The rejection is now moot and should be removed. Applicants respectfully request that the claims now be examined on the merits.


Rejection of the Claims Under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 14-17 stand rejected under §112, second paragraph as allegedly being indefinite. Claim 14 has been rewritten to remove any indefiniteness from the claim. The rejection is now moot and should be withdrawn.

In view of the above remarks and amendments, favorable consideration of the application is courteously requested. However, if there is any remaining issues(s) which can be expeditiously resolved by a telephone conference, the Examiner is courteously requested to telephone the undersigned at the number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,



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